

AVIAN/PANDEMIC FLU NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL AVIAN INFLUENZA NEWSLETTER OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



FLU:Pandemic/Bird
Plan. Prepare. Protect.
County of San Diego

www.sdbirdflu.org

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Avian Influenza: Current Global Situation Update

AVIAN INFLUENZA CASES IN HUMANS

Since January 2004, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported human cases of Avian Influenza A/ (H5N1) in more than twelve countries like Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Egypt, Djibouti, Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Nigeria.

Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases of Avian Influenza A/ (H5N1) Reported to WHO through November 5, 2007. WHO only reports laboratory-confirmed cases.

- ◆ Total human cases of H5N1 (confirmed) = **334**
- ◆ Total human deaths from H5N1= **205**

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/cases_table_2007_04_11.html

Currently, there are no reported human OR animal cases of the highly pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1) in United States.

World Health Organization (WHO)

Indonesia - November 5, 2007

The Ministry of Health of Indonesia has announced a new case of human infection of H5N1 avian influenza. A 30-year-old female from the Tangerang Municipality, Banten Province developed symptoms on 23 October, was hospitalized on 31 October and died in an AI referral hospital on 3 November.

The investigation found that there were poultry deaths in the case's neighborhood in the days prior to her onset of symptoms.

Of the 112 cases confirmed to date in Indonesia, 90 have been fatal.

http://www.who.int/2007_10_31/index.html

WHO Media Center - October 23, 2007

Recent scientific advances and increased vaccine manufacturing capacity have prompted experts to increase their projections of how many pandemic influenza vaccine courses can be made available in the coming years.

Last spring, the World Health Organization (WHO) and vaccine manufacturers said that about 100 million courses of pandemic influenza vaccine based on the H5N1 avian influenza strain could be produced immediately with standard technology. Experts now anticipate that global production capacity will rise to 4.5 billion pandemic immunization courses per year in 2010.

"With influenza vaccine production capacity on the rise, we are beginning to be in a much better position vis-à-vis the threat of an influenza pandemic," Dr Marie-Paule Kieny, Director of the Initiative for Vaccine Research at WHO, said today.

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2007/pr60/en/index.html>

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Cumulative Number of Confirmed Human Cases
- Vietnam reports more Outbreaks in ducks
- 6,000 chickens were culled in Bangladesh

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Related link:

[Global pandemic influenza action plan to increase vaccine supply \[pdf 510kb\]](http://www.who.int/pandemic_influenza/action_plan_to_increase_vaccine_supply.pdf)

AVIAN INFLUENZA CASES IN POULTRY AND WILD BIRDS

The Poultry Site.com

[Bird flu forces Bangladesh to cull chickens](#) - November 2, 2007

DHAKA - Bangladesh culled some 6,000 chickens after bird flu infected three more farms in the northern part of the country, officials said on Friday.



[Bird Flu: A Danger Tamed By Awareness](#) November 2, 2007

NIGERIA - Until recently, Nigerians did not have any cause to panic over a bird disease called Avian Influenza, popularly known as 'Bird Flu' as it was alien to this part of the world. Its impact is devastating as it is capable of killing poultry in millions few hours after striking its.

[Bird flu hits central Vietnam](#) - October 25, 2007

VIETNAM - Bird flu has killed nearly 300 ducklings in central Vietnam, the second outbreak found in the Southeast Asian country this month.

NATIONAL NEWS

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

October 23, 2007

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) are seeking public comment on the draft Guidance on Allocating and Targeting Pandemic Influenza Vaccine. Links to the draft documents and for submitting comments are provided below.

In a pandemic, until there is enough vaccine for everyone, determining which individuals and groups should have priority access to available vaccines is one of the more challenging problems planners face.

The Federal government has been soliciting advice from influenza experts, State and local public health officials, homeland security experts, ethicists, private-sector stakeholders, and the public. In a series of meetings held last fall and winter, experts and the public identified the most important vaccination goals as protecting those who will first respond to the pandemic and care for the sick,

those who keep vital community services working, those who have increased exposure due to their jobs, and pregnant women and children.

In response to this input, the Federal government has developed a draft guidance to assist State and local governments, communities, tribal and territorial governments, and the private sector in allocating a limited supply of pandemic vaccine.

To read a draft of Flu Vaccine Allocation Plan follow link below:

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/vaccine/prioritization.html>

To make comments on draft plan follow link below:

<http://www.aspe.hhs.gov/panflu/vaccinepriorities.shtml>

H5N1 Avian Influenza - Timeline of major events

Updated October 19, 2007

http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/timeline_19_10_2007.pdf

LOCAL AND STATE NEWS



Local News/ Outreach

Activities related to Pandemic Influenza education in the regions continue with more than **122,743 educational material** distributed to various community locations. In addition, a total of **140 presentations** have been provided to staff and community residents.

State/ Federal News

No new updates at this time.

PANDEMIC/ AVIAN FLU IN THE MEDIA

Emerging Infectious Disease Journal November 2, 2007

Review: Using estimates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization, and published models of the expected evolution of pandemic influenza, we modeled the surge capacity of healthcare facility and intensive care unit (ICU) requirements over time in northern Netherlands (≈ 1.7 million populations). We compared the demands of various scenarios with estimates of maximum ICU capacity, factoring in healthcare worker absenteeism as well as reported and realistic estimates derived from semi-structured telephone interviews with key management in ICUs in the study area. We show that even during the peak of the pandemic, most patients requiring ICU admission may be served, even those who have non-influenza-related conditions, provided that strong indications and decision-making rules are maintained for admission as well as for continuation (or discontinuation) of life support. Such a model should be integral to a preparedness plan for a pandemic with a new human-transmissible.

<http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/13/11/1714.htm>

Bangkok Post.com. - November 2, 2007

World Health Organization Director General Margaret Chan warned Friday that the risk of an avian influenza pandemic had not been averted despite the apparent success of several Asian nations in controlling outbreaks of the disease. "Don't let your guards off," Chan told reporters after talks in Beijing with Chinese health, agriculture and central government officials. "The risk of an avian influenza pandemic is still with us," she said.

Hong Kong-born Chan praised China's improved disease surveillance, laboratory capacity and shortened time for reporting bird-flu outbreaks.

She said the modern facilities at China's national control centre for infectious diseases made it "one of the best" she had seen since taking up her WHO post 10 months ago.

WHO said it had recorded 303 human infections with bird flu in 12 nations, including 204 deaths, by October 31.

China has reported 25 human H5N1 infections since 2003. Sixteen of those people have died.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/breakingnews.php>

newsday.com - October 31, 2007

Stressing the need to prevent the spread of a highly pathogenic influenza virus - such as the bird flu strain circulating in Southeast Asia and elsewhere - researchers at Stony Brook University Medical Center have begun a clinical study of an experimental vaccine.

The study marks the first avian flu vaccine to be tested on Long Island. Volunteers are being recruited for experi-

mental doses, which are administered in two shots several weeks apart.

<http://www.newsday.com/news/story>

Scarce Pandemic Vaccine to be Given in Order USA Today - October 22, 2007

In the early weeks of a flu pandemic, the first to receive scarce supplies of vaccine will include the military, medical and emergency workers, pregnant women and babies — nearly 23 million people — under a draft federal plan to be outlined Tuesday in Washington.

At the back of the pack, in a pandemic of the sort that killed 500,000 Americans in 1918, would be 74 million sick and elderly adults and 122 million healthy people ages 19-64.

The plan was developed by a government working group that met with scientists and business and community representatives over several months. It provides guidelines for pandemic planners and offers a glimpse into some agonizing decisions that could be necessary in the context of a swift-moving infectious disease and a shortage of protective vaccine.

http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2007-10-21-pandemic-order_N.htm?csp=34

Kids Overlooked in Flu Pandemic Plans

CNN News - October 18, 2007

Children would likely be both prime spreaders and targets of a flu pandemic, but they're being overlooked in the nation's preparations for the next super-flu, pediatricians and public health advocates reported Wednesday.

The report urges the government to improve planned child protections, including how to care for youngsters if a pandemic closes schools.

"Right now, we are behind the curve in finding ways to limit the spread of a pandemic in children even though they are among the most at risk," said Dr. John Bradley of the American Academy of Pediatrics, which co-authored the report with the Trust for America's Health.

Concern is rising that the Asian bird flu known as H5N1 could trigger the next worldwide influenza epidemic if it mutates to become more easily spread person-to-person.

Children have long seemed particularly vulnerable to H5N1, possibly because they are more likely to touch or play with the diseased birds who spread it. Wednesday's report says nearly 46 percent of bird flu deaths since 2003 were among people 19 or younger.

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/HEALTH/conditions/10/18/pandemic.children.ap/>

Resources

- County Vector Control Program's **(888) 551-INFO (4636)** for info on how to protect birds, or to report dead birds.
- HHSA's Avian and Pandemic Flu Info Line **(619) 515-6900** for info regarding avian and pandemic flu.
- Educational materials are available for public distribution and are also downloadable from the county website: www.sdbirdflu.org or www.sdpandemicflu.org. Click on "Pandemic Flu".
- National Geographic International Edition: www.nationalgeographic.com
- World Health Organization (WHO): www.who.int
- Federal Dept. of Health & Human Services: www.pandemicflu.gov
- Federal CDC site: www.cdc.gov/flu/pandemic
- State of California: www.dhs.ca.gov
- County of San Diego: www.sdbirdflu.org
- The Poultry Site: www.thepoultrysite.com



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